

## So That You May Know We Possess God's Life I John 5:6-13

In these verses John presents to us Christianity in a nutshell - that in His Son, God has given to us His Life! "The" Life... God's Life... eternal, sufficient, transformative. He has given us Himself. This is the gift that makes us partakers of the divine nature, and with that personal gift comes everything pertaining to life and godliness. (II Pet 1:3,4)

Our God is a giving God. And, He has nothing to give us apart from Himself. No justification, no sanctification, no glorification apart from His justifying, sanctifying, glorifying Life. No godliness apart from His Godly Life. He who has His Son... has that Life! (5:12) When we place our faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, we receive His saving Life. Not in part, but in full! (Jo 1:16) At heavens gate there will be no one there asking for a behavioral record, a baptismal certificate, or a church membership document. There will be someone there to take your "pulse"... to see if the heart of God's Son is beating in you!

Being Christian is about being eternally alive. Alive by God's indwelling Life. That never means that we become God, or even "gods", any more than the cup becomes the liquid it contains. The human creature is never absorbed into the Divine Creator. But it does mean that we have become sharers in his Uncreated Life. That is the "abundant Life" Jesus was talking about in John 10:10 - transcendent, deathless, limitless. There's your hope of glory. The only hope of experiencing and expressing the glory of God lies fully in these words, "Christ in you, the hope of glory!" (Col 1:27)

How do we believe and come to know that we possess the Life of God? By the inner teaching and witness of God's Spirit. (5:6) He alone is able to convince us of the full humanity and deity of Christ, of His sinless, perfect Life, and the gift of His crucified, risen Life abiding in all who believe in Him. He is the Revealer, Teacher, and Convincer of these eternal realities. To reject His witness is to say God doesn't know what He is talking about. To receive His witness is to become a witness yourself - one who can say he or she has believed and come to know that they possess eternal life... God's Life Himself!

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## Praise Reports & Prayer Requests

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Please inform us of any changes to your address



# Greetings

Does it seem to you like most everything in the "externals" is broken and hardly anything works? Do you get the sense that every day is trudging through sludge? Does most everything take four or five times longer to accomplish than it used to?

Ever want to give in to the frustration? Yield to resignation? Cave in to procrastination? Grumble out of exasperation? I have a better idea, "borrowed" from a fellow fisherman...

"Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you. Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you. To Him (not the "externals") be dominion forever and ever. Amen!"

- I Peter 5:6-11

## CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

3,10,24,31

First Baptist Alachua, FL

12

Alachua Study

14-17

Louisville, KY Men's Retreat (502-664-5622)

### NOVEMBER

5-7

Binghamton, NY (607-239-5006)



## Praise & Prayer



For our indwelling Life



For the Revealing, Teaching, Convincing Witness of the Holy Spirit



For protection and safety during our travel and meetings



For churches that will celebrate being partakers of the Divine nature



We will keep you apprised regarding our **February 2022 Florida Retreat** as Covid conditions in our area continue to be a factor in our ability to make such a commitment.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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